## **TITLE SHEET**

## **RESALE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

This tariff applies to the Resale Interexchange Telecommunications Services furnished by Reunion Communications Inc. within the State of South Carolina. This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the Company's principal place of business located at 106 W. Calendar Avenue #190, LaGrange, Illinois 60525

The Company's toll free telephone number is: 1-877-828-7724.

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**ISSUED BY:** Mark Widbin, President

Reunion Communications, Inc. 106 W. Calendar Avenue #190

## **CHECK SHEET**

All sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and Revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this page.

Sheet	Revision	Sheet	Revision
1	Original	21	Original
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3	Original	23	Original
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# **Reunion Communications, Inc.**

# Tariff S.C. PSC No. 1 Original Sheet 3

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## **SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- D Delete or Discontinue
- I Change Resulting In A Rate Increase
- M Moved From Another Tariff Location
- N New Material
- R Change Resulting In A Rate Reduction
- T Change In Text or Regulation But No Change In Rate or Charge

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#### **TARIFF FORMAT**

- A. <u>Sheet Numbering</u> Sheet numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between existing sheets with whole numbers, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between Sheets 14 and 15 would be Sheet 14.1.
- B. <u>Sheet Revision Numbers</u> Revision numbers also appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Sheet 14 cancels 3rd Revised Page 14.
- C. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u> There are various levels of alphanumeric paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level of coding. For example:

2. 2.1. 2.1.1. 2.1.1.A. 2.1.1.A.1. 2.1.1.A.1.(a)

D. <u>Check Sheets</u> - When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet will accompany the filing. The check sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc., remains the same, just new revision levels on some sheets). The tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current sheet on file with the Commission.

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#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

#### 1.1 Definitions:

<u>Authorized User</u> - A person, firm, corporation, or other entity authorized by the customer to receive or send communications.

Busy Hour - The two consecutive half hours during which the greatest volume of traffic is handled.

<u>Carrier</u> - Reunion Communications, Inc., unless specifically stated otherwise.

Commission - The South Carolina Public Service Commission.

<u>Company</u> - Reunion Communications, Inc., also referred to as Carrier.

Completed Calls - Completed calls are answered calls on the distance end.

<u>Customer</u> - The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders or uses service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with tariff regulations.

<u>Customer-Provided Equipment</u> - Terminal equipment provided by a customer.

Day Rate Period - 8:00 a.m. to 4:59 p.m., Monday through Friday.

<u>Directory Assistance</u> - Directory Assistance Service consists of supplying listed telephone numbers to persons who call the Directory Assistance Bureau.

<u>Due Date</u> - The last day for payment without unpaid amounts being subject to a late payment charge.

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## 1.1 <u>Definitions</u>: (continued)

Evening Rate Period - 5:00 p.m. to 10:59 p.m., Sunday through Friday.

<u>Holidays</u> - Carrier's recognized holidays are, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Night/Weekend Rate Period - 11:00 p.m. to 7:59 a.m.; from 8:00 a.m. to 10:59 p.m. on Saturday; and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:59 p.m. Sunday.

ORS - South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff.

Person - Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association or other legal entity.

<u>Premises</u> - The customers location for services.

<u>Terminal Equipment</u> - Devices, apparatus and their associated wiring, such as teleprinters, telephone handsets, data sets, or microprocessors.

### 1.2 <u>Abbreviations</u>:

LATA - Local Access Transport Area

LEC - Local Exchange Carrier

MTS - Message Toll Service

PBX - Private Branch Exchange

SAL - Special Access Line

V&H - Vertical and Horizontal

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## **SECTION 2 - REGULATIONS**

## 2.1 <u>Undertaking of Carrier</u>

Carrier provides long distance message toll telephone service to customers for their transmission of voice, data, and other types of telecommunications.

Communications originate when the customer accesses Carrier directly or through the facilities of the local service carrier via one or more access lines, equal access or on a dial-up basis. Carrier may act as the customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities, when authorized by the customer, to allow connection of a customer's location to the Carrier network. The customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangements.

The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis (30 days) and are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

#### 2.2 <u>Limitations on Service</u>

- 2.2.1 Carrier reserves the right to provide services only to and from locations where the necessary facilities and/or equipment are available and subject to the provisions of this tariff.
- 2.2.2 Carrier reserves the right to discontinue furnishing service upon written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control or when the customer is using the service in violation of the provisions of this tariff or in violation of the law or any violation of South Carolina Regulation 103-625.
- 2.2.3 Title to any equipment provided by Carrier under these regulations remains with Carrier. Prior written permission from the company is required before any assignment or transfer. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to any such assignee or transferee.

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#### 2.3 Use of Service

Service may not be used for any unlawful purposes.

The minimum period for service is one month (30 days), unless otherwise noted in the service description.

## 2.4 <u>Limitation of Liability</u>

- 2.4.1 Carrier shall not be liable to any person, firm or entity for damages, either direct, indirect, consequential, special, incidental, actual, punitive, or for any other damages or for any lost profits, arising out of mistakes, accidents, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays or defects in transmissions, not caused by the negligence of the customer, commencing upon activation of service and in no event exceeding an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the customer for the period of service during which the mistake, accident, error, omission, interruption, delay or defect in transmission occurred.
- 2.4.2 Carrier will indemnify the customer and hold it harmless in respect to any loss, damage, liability or expense asserted against the customer by a third party on account of any property damage or personal injury caused by any negligence or willful misconduct of Carrier or its agents or representatives arising out of performance by Carrier of any testing or other activities on the customer's premises pursuant to this tariff. Carrier's obligations under the preceding sentence shall be subject to the customer's full performance of this tariff and subject further to the customer's duty to take reasonable precautions in the location, construction, maintenance and operation of all activities, facilities and equipment for the protection against hazard or injury and so as to not interfere with the services provided by Carrier.

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## 2.4 <u>Limitation of Liability</u> (continued)

- 2.4.3 Carrier shall be indemnified and held harmless by the customer against:
  - A. Claims for libel, slander, infringement of patent or copyright or unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name, or service mark arising out of the material, data information, or other content transmitted over the carrier's facilities; and
  - B. All other claims arising out of any act or omission by the customer in connection with any service provided by Carrier.

## 2.5 Interruption of Service

A credit allowance for interruptions of service which are not due to Carrier's testing or adjusting, to the negligence, of the customer, or to the failure of the channels, equipment, and/or communications systems provided by the customer, are subject to the liability provisions set forth herein. It shall be the obligation of the customer to notify Carrier of any interruption in service. Before giving such notice, the customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission by or within the customer's control and is not in wiring or equipment connected to the Carrier terminal.

The Company will keep a record of any condition resulting in any interruption of service pursuant to South Carolina Regulation 103-614.

## 2.6 <u>Restoration of Service</u>

The use and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with the Part 64, Subpart D of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations which specifies the priority system for such activities.

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## 2.7 <u>Customer Responsibility</u>

- 2.7.1 All customers assume general responsibilities in connection with the provisions and use of Carrier's service. All customers are responsible for the following:
  - A. The customer is responsible for placing orders for service, paying all charges for service rendered by Carrier and complying with all of Carrier's regulations governing the service. The customer is also responsible for assuring that its users comply with regulations.
  - B. When placing an order for service, the customer must provide:
    - 1. The name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the payment of service charges.
    - 2. The name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of the customer contact person(s).
  - C. The customer must pay Carrier for the replacement or repair on Carrier's equipment when the damage results from:
    - 1. The negligence or willful act of the customer or user.
    - 2. Improper use of service.
    - 3. Any use of equipment or service provided by others.

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## 2.7.2 <u>Maintenance, Testing, and Adjustment</u>

Upon reasonable notice, equipment provided by Carrier shall be made available for such tests and adjustments as may be necessary to maintain them in satisfactory condition. No interruption allowance will be granted for such time.

The Company will keep a record of all test procedures which are performed in accordance with South Carolina Regulation 103-617.

#### 2.7.3 Deposits

- A. Carrier may require a customer or prospective customer to pay a deposit if the following conditions exist:
  - 1. The customer's past telecommunications utility payment record reflects delinquent payment practices. (i.e. customer had 2 consecutive 30-day arrearages within the past 24 months.)
  - 2. A new customer cannot furnish either a letter of good credit or an acceptable cosigner or guarantor on the same system within South Carolina to guarantee payment.
  - 3. An existing customer has no deposit and is presently delinquent in payment. (i.e. customer had 2 consecutive 30-day arrearages, within the past 24 months)
  - 4. A customer has had service terminated by any telecommunications utility for non-payment or fraudulent use.
- B. For new customers deposits will be an amount equal to two (2) months estimated total billing (including toll and taxes) and for existing customers deposits will be an amount equal to the total actual bills of the highest two (2) consecutive months within the preceding six (6) month period.

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#### 2.7.3 <u>Deposits</u> (continued)

- C. Deposit amounts may be adjusted upward or downward to reflect the actual billing experience and payment habits of the customer. All adjustment in Deposits will conform to South Carolina Regulation 103-621.
- D. Simple interest accruing annually shall be paid on deposits held by the Company at a rate prescribed by the Commission for the period during which the deposit was held. Payment of interest shall be made to the customer at least every two (2) years and at the time the deposit is returned. A deposit will cease to draw interest on the date it is returned, the date service is terminated or on the date notice is sent to the customer's last known address that the deposit is no longer required.
- E. Deposits will be refunded with interest after two (2) years unless the customer has had two consecutive 30-day arrearages or more than two non-consecutive 30-day arrearages in the past 24 months, or has had service denied or interrupted for non-payment of bills, or has been sent more than two late payment notices in the past 9 months, or has a returned check in the past 6 months.

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## 2.7 <u>Customer Responsibility</u>

#### 2.7.4 <u>Credit Allowance</u>

Credit for failure of service or equipment will be allowed only when failure is caused by or occurs in equipment owned, provided and billed for, by Carrier.

- A. Credit allowances for failure of service or equipment starts when the customer notifies Carrier of the failure or when Carrier becomes aware of the failure and ceases when the operation has been restored and an attempt has been made to notify the customer.
- B. The customer shall notify Carrier of failures of service or equipment and make reasonable attempts to ascertain that the failure is not caused by customer provided facilities, any act, or omission of the customer or in wiring or equipment connected to the terminal.
- C. Only those portions of the service or equipment operation disabled will be credited. No credit allowances will be made for:
  - 1. Interruptions of service resulting from Carrier performing routine maintenance;
  - 2. Interruptions of service for implementation of a customer order for a change in the service;
  - 3. Interruption caused by the negligence of the customer or his authorized user;
  - 4. Interruptions of service because of the failure of service or equipment due to customer or authorized user-provided facilities.

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## 2.7.5 <u>Cancellation by Customer</u>

If a customer orders services requiring special equipment and/or facilities dedicated to the customer's use and then cancels his order before the service begins, a charge will be made to the customer for the non-recoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred on behalf of the customer by the Company.

#### 2.7.6 Payment and Charges for Services

- A. Service is provided and billed on a monthly basis.
- B. Payment is due within 20 days after the bill is rendered by the Company. The bill is considered rendered when deposited in the U.S. mail with postage prepaid to the customers last known address.
- C. Interest at the rate of 1.5% will be added to any unpaid balance brought forth from the previous billing date to cover the cost of collection and carrying accounts in arrears. This method of late payment charge will be in lieu of any other penalties allowed by law.
- D. The customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service furnished to the customer. Charges based on actual usage during a month will be billed monthly in arrears.
- E. Service may be denied or discontinued at Carrier's discretion, for non-payment of amounts due Carrier, past the due date, or any violation of South Carolina Regulation 103-625.

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### 2.7.7 <u>Billing Disputes</u>

If written or verbal notice of dispute as to charges is not received by the Company within the applicable statute of limitations such bill shall be deemed correct and binding. In the case of a billing dispute between the user and the Carrier for service furnished to the user, which cannot be settled with mutual satisfaction, the user can take the following course of action:

- 1.) First, the user may request, and the Carrier will provide, an in-depth review of the disputed amount. This can be done by dialing 1-866-598-0672. (The undisputed portion and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis or the service may be subject to disconnect.)
- 2.) Second, if there is still a disagreement about the disputed amount after the investigation and review by manager of the Carrier, the user may file an appropriate complaint with the Office of Regulatory Staff. The Commission's address is:

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff Consumer Services Division 1401 Main Street, Suite 900 Columbia, SC 29201 Phone: (803) 737-5230 1-800-922-1531

# 2.7.8 Application of Charges

The charge for services are those in effect for the period that service is furnished.

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#### 2.8 <u>Carrier Responsibility</u>

#### 2.8.1 <u>Calculation of Credit Allowance</u>

Pursuant to limitations set forth in Section 2.7.4, when service is interrupted the credit allowance will be computed on the following basis:

- A. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than two hours.
- B. The customer shall be credited for each interruption of two hours or major fraction thereof that an interruption continues beyond two hours.
- C. When a minimum usage charge is applicable and the customer fails to meet a usage minimum credit, the outage shall be applied against that minimum equal to 1/360th of the monthly minimum charges associated with the portion of service disabled for each period of two hours or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues beyond two hours.

## 2.8.2 Cancellation of Credit

Where Carrier cancels a service or the provision of equipment and the final service period is less than the monthly billing period, a credit will be issued for any amounts billed in advance, prorated at 1/30th of the monthly recurring charge for each day the service was rendered or the equipment was provided. This credit will be issued to the customer or applied against the balance remaining on the customer's account.

## 2.8.3 <u>Disconnection of Service by Carrier</u>

Carrier may refuse or discontinue service for any of the reasons listed below without incurring any liability. Unless otherwise stated, the customer will be allowed a reasonable time in which to comply with the rule before service is discontinued.

- A. Non-payment of regulated sums due to Carrier for service for more than thirty (30) days beyond the date of rendition of the bill for such regulated services. Service will not be discontinued without prior written notice to the customer in accordance with 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-633 (Supp. 1999);
- B. For a violation of any regulation governing the service under this tariff;

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## 2.8.3 Disconnection of Service by Carrier (continued)

- C. For a violation of any law, rule, or regulation of any government authority having jurisdiction over the service;
- D. Without notice, in the event of a condition determined hazardous by the Company;
- E. Without notice in the event of customer use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect Carrier's provision of service to others;
- F. For failure of customer to permit Carrier reasonable access to its equipment.

#### 2.8.4 Fractional Charges Upon Discontinuance of Service

Credits for a fractional part of a month are calculated by counting the number of days in the billing period before service was discontinued. That number is divided by thirty days and the resultant fraction multiplied by the monthly charge to arrive at the fractional monthly charge.

## 2.8.5 Adjustment of Bills

If it is found that the Company has directly or indirectly, by any device whatsover, charged, collected or received from any customer a greater or lesser compensation for any service rendered by the Company, the Company will follow the regulations set forth in Section 103-623 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations.

### 2.9 <u>Termination of Service</u>

#### 2.9.1 Termination by Customer

When a customer desires to have service terminated, the customer must notify the Company orally or in writing. The Company will send the customer a final bill for service within a reasonable time after the receipt of such notice of termination.

#### 2.9.2 Termination by the Company

Service may be terminated by the Company for non-payment of a bill, provided that the Company has made a reasonable attempt to effect collection and has given the customer written notice that settlement of the account must be made within five days or service will be disconnected. Service will be terminated only on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., unless provisions have been made by the Company to have someone available to accept payment and reconnect service.

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## **SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE AND RATES**

## 3.1 <u>Timing of Calls</u>

The customer's monthly usage charges for Carrier service are based upon the total number of minutes the customer uses and service options subscribed to. Chargeable time begins when the connection is established between the calling station and the called station or PBX. Chargeable time ends when either party "hangs up."

There are no charges incurred if a call is not completed.

## 3.2 Start of Billing

For billing purposes, the start of service is the first day on which service is available for use by the customer. The end of service date is the last day or any portion of the last day for which service was provided to the customer.

## 3.3 <u>Interconnection</u>

Service furnished by Carrier may be interconnected with services or facilities of other authorized communications common carriers and with private systems, subject to the technical limitations established by Carrier. Service furnished by Carrier is not part of a joint undertaking with such other carriers. Any special interface equipment of Carrier and other participating carriers shall be provided at the customer's expense.

Interconnection with the facilities or services of other carriers shall be under the applicable terms and conditions of other carriers' tariffs. The customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting his customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems with Carrier's. The customer shall secure all licenses, permits, right-of-ways, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection.

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### 3.4 <u>Terminal Equipment</u>

Carrier's service may be used with or terminated in customer provided terminal equipment or customer provided communication systems, such as teleprinters, handsets, or data sets. Such terminal equipment will be furnished and maintained at the expense of the providing customer, except as otherwise agreed in advance and in writing. The customer is responsible for all costs at their premises, including personnel, wiring, electrical power, and the like incurred in the use of Carrier's service. When such terminal equipment is used, the equipment shall comply with the generally accepted minimum protective criteria of the telecommunications industry.

#### 3.5 Calculation of Distance

Usage charges for any mileage sensitive products are based on the airline distance between rate centers associated with the originating and terminating points of the call.

The airline mileage between rate centers is determined by applying the formula below to the vertical and horizontal coordinates associated with the rate centers involved. The company uses the rate centers and associated vertical and horizontal coordinates that are generally accepted within the telecommunications industry.

Formula: 
$$\frac{(V1 - V2)5 + (H1 - H2)5}{10}$$

#### 3.6 Minimum Call Completion Rate

The customer can expect a call completion rate of 97% of calls attempted during peak use periods for all Feature Group D (1+) services.

#### 3.7 Special Services

A Special Service is any service requested by the customer for which there is no prescribed rate in this tariff. Special Service charges will be developed on an individual case basis and will be made available to the ORS and PSC upon request.

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#### 3.8 Services Offerings

The company provides the following services:

## 3.8.1 Message Toll Service (MTS)

Outgoing long distance service whereby the customer accesses the Company's underlying carrier's network on an equal access or dial-up basis.

In non-equal access areas, the customer will gain access to the Carrier's network by dialing a 101XXXX access code which will be provided by the Company.

#### 3.8.2 Inbound 8XX Service

Inbound service is virtual banded inbound toll service which permits calls to be completed at the subscriber's location without charge to the calling party. Access to the service is gained by dialing a ten digit telephone number which terminates at the customer's location. Inbound services originate via normal shared use facilities and are terminated via the customers' local exchange service access line.

Carrier will accept a prospective inbound service customer's request for up to ten (10) telephone numbers and will reserve such number(s) on a first come first serve basis. All requests for number reservations must be made in writing, dated and signed by a responsible representative of the customer. Carrier does not guarantee the availability of number(s) until assigned. The telephone number(s) so requested, if found to be available, will be reserved for and furnished to the eligible customer.

If a customer who has received a number does not subscribe to inbound service within 90 days, the company reserves the right to make the assigned number available for use by another customer.

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#### 3.8.3 Travel Card Service

Allows subscribers to place calls by gaining access to the network via a toll free telephone number and personal identification number (PIN) issued by the Company.

## 3.8.4 <u>Directory Assistance</u>

Directory assistance is the provision of listed telephone numbers to requesting customers. The Company will provide directory assistance service to customers at a per call charge.

### 3.8.5 Operator Services

The Company will not provide operator services to end users. The Company's underlying carrier will provide and bill for all operator assisted services.

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## **SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES**

## 4.1 Usage Charges

## 4.1.1 Reserved for future use.

## 4.1.2 <u>Billing Increments</u>

Usage is billed in accordance with the billing increments set forth in the individual product rate sections of this tariff. All partial usage will be rounded up to the next highest applicable billing increment.

#### 4.1.3 Rounding

All calls are rounded to the next highest billing interval. Total charge for a fraction of a cent will be rounded to the next highest whole cent.

## 4.1.4 <u>Taxes</u>

All rates stated are exclusive of any applicable taxes.

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#### 4.2 <u>Marketing</u>

#### 4.2.1 <u>Special Promotions</u>

Any marketing efforts will clearly indicate to the potential customers the nature of the transaction which is being offered. Materials submitted to prospective customers will clearly indicate that those customers will be changing their long distance carrier if they accept such solicitation. Any special promotions will be filed with the Commission and Office of Regulatory Staff at least 14 days prior to initiation of the promotion.

#### 4.2.1 Marketing Statement

As a telephone utility under the regulation of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, the carrier hereby asserts and affirms that as a reseller of intrastate telecommunications service, it will not indulge or participate in deceptive or misleading telecommunications marketing practices to the detriment of consumers in South Carolina, and it will comply with those marketing procedure, if any, set forth by the Public Service Commission. Additionally, it will be responsible for the marketing practices of its contracted telemarketers for compliance with this provision. It understands that violation of this provision could result in a rule to show cause as to the withdrawal of its certificate to complete intrastate telecommunications traffic within the State of South Carolina.

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### 4.3 Outbound 1+ Service

\$0.06 per minute. Maximum rate \$0.18 per minute. Billed in whole minute increments.

## 4.4 <u>Inbound 8XX Service</u>

\$0.06 per minute. Maximum rate \$0.18 per minute. Billed in whole minute increments.

## 4.5 <u>Travel Card Service</u>

\$0.25 per minute.

Billed in whole minute increments.

Per call surcharge: None.

The payphone surcharge stated in Section 4.9 will apply to calls placed to an 8XX number.

## 4.6 <u>Directory Assistance</u>

The Company's customers will be billed the following per call charge to be connected to the local exchange company directory assistance service for directory assistance calls within the State.

Directory Assistance Charge: \$0.89 per call

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## 4.7 <u>Returned Check Charge</u>

Any customer issuing Carrier a check(s) returned to Carrier for insufficient funds will be charged a fee equal to or less than provided in SC Code Ann. 34-11-70.

## 4.8 Special Promotions

Carrier may from time to time offer special promotions to customers upon prior Commission approval of such promotion.

## 4.9 <u>Dial Around Pay Telephone (Payphone) Surcharge</u>

A dial around surcharge of \$0.35 per call will be added to any completed intrastate toll access code and subscriber 8XX type calls placed from a public or semi-public payphone.

**ISSUED:** March 9, 2010 **EFFECTIVE:** September 29, 2010

**ISSUED BY:** Mark Widbin, President

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